Mat-Su Monitor

SUMMER 2017 VOLUME 40 NUMBER 5

HEATHER'S TOP 8 PAGE 4

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NFL MOCK DRAFT PAGE 11

STUDENT APPRECIATION DAY
APRIL 26, 2017

Your Student Government Council has exciting news. This is an invitation to your Student Appreciation Day.

Yes, your semester is almost over! How exciting is that? And what better way to celebrate it than by attending a BBQ in the Atrium. Hamburgers and hot dogs for all! Snacks, sodas and water are also on the menu.

Appreciation awards will be given out to all students and other members of our community who have given their time in helping with the events sponsored by your Student Government.

Everything is free and everyone is welcome to attend and join in. Thank you for participating in and supporting your Student Government.

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MATH DEPARTMENT PI DAY SMASHING SUCCESS

Scott Taylor, House Manager for the theater lines up for a shot of Sandy Gravely, Student Services Director, taking *her* shot at College Director Dr. Talis Colber taking one for the team. Go Arctic Dragons!

The Math Department's annual Pi Day charity drive was held on April 19. Just one of many charitable activities organized by the Math Department this semester, Pi Day combined a bake sale with the chance to pay a dollar to throw a "pie" at a college employee. Many people generously donated time, money, and throwing arms. A rough estimate puts the day's proceeds at several hundred dollars at least (the event is still ongoing as this issue goes to print). The money will be donated to MyHouse Mat-Su Youth Homeless Shelter.

Korry Dunham, Finacial Aid Officer, offer her services.

IT HAS ARRIVED!!!
FROLF AT UAA MAT-SU
DISC GOLF COURSE

Where? Mat-Su College! No, this is not a course where you can get credits for your degree. This is a place where you can bring your friends and family to get some exercise and have fun. We will have a practice throwing area for different distances as well as a nine-basket course. Come see where we are setting up the course and give us some of your insights on how to make it better. Open to the public.

Oh, Yeah!!! Wonder where the Mat-Su College is located? Right off Trunk road in Palmer. Google the address: 8295 E. College Dr., Palmer, Alaska 99645. Look forward to seeing you here.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN RUNNING FOR STUDENT GOVERNMENT PRESIDENT OR VICE PRESIDENT?
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS
PICK UP AND SUBMIT APPLICATION PACKETS AT THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT OFFICE (JKB 114)
Applications due on April 11th
Elections held April 25th and 26th
For more information, contact Secretary Thomas Brass
Phone: (907) 745-9759
Email: uaa_mscstudentgov@alaska.edu
APPLY NOW!

Upcoming events:

Spring 2017:

April 28: Last day to apply for spring graduation. Last day for graduates to apply for Leadership Honors (5 PM deadline).

April 29: Math Department Cram Jam event, 9 AM to 2 PM, Snodgrass 117 and 119.

May 1: Last day of regular classes.

May 1-8: Campus Cache textbook buyback.

May 6: Last day of finals. Semester ends!

May 11: Grades available on UAOn**line.**

May 12: Graduation.

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Summer 2017:

May 22-August 5: 10-week summer session.

May 22-June 26: First 5-week summer session.

June 29-August 5: Second 5-week summer session.

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Fall 2017:

August 28: Classes begin.

September 5: Faculty approval required to add a class.

September 8: Last day to add or drop a class.

October 30: Spring 2018 schedule live on UAOnline.

From Whence and Why?

By Art Carney

There are as many questions about the origin of man as there are people who ask about it, and regardless of the 'answer,' it is only a matter of time until a different question takes its place -- such as the origin of our human culture. It began to take shape in the early days of the Neanderthals, after their 'animal instincts' gave way to a primitive consciousness and the Neanderthals realized their survival depends on the well-being of every man, woman and child in the group. That insight became the basic foundation of human culture, which enabled early man to survive and prosper. After many ages of slow progress, an evolutionary improvement produced homo sapiens, who eventually incorporated the spiritual principles of human culture into the beliefs of organized religion. That is what led to the "Enlightenment," followed by science, industry and modern civilization -- and a changing climate.

Organized religion provides many physical, social, and spiritual benefits to mankind, but some religious beliefs cause prejudice and discrimination among different groups of people, which leads to various stages of Holy War. We have an urgent need for understanding and cooperation among all nations because modern civilization brought about a New World Order. Mankind needs to adopt and utilize a more humanistic worldview and an honest tolerance for all religions. Another "Enlightenment" is not likely to occur, but the results of Global Warming might provide a wake-up call when droughts and devastating storms are commonplace, and ocean levels continue to rise. People are likely to change their expectations of life as mankind becomes more introspective and aware of the many natural benefits we have always taken for granted.

As long as there is no universally accepted explanation about the beginning of the world and the purpose of life, organized religion will provide different possibilities and promote the practice of their spiritual beliefs. However, human cultures will continue to care for the well-being and survival of the entire population through cultural norms and mores, including the economy and government.

Many religious skeptics and independent thinkers have risen above the need for religious guidance, and the bulk of humanity continues to evolve toward a higher level of conscious awareness that is beyond our present comprehension -- it might even be some form of a "heaven," but we'll have to die to find out. For the time being, it behooves all of us to make the most of the present circumstances in our own little corner of the world.

UAA Engineering Students

Story and photo by Gig Grant

Left to Right: Caroline Gamache, Mike Cohen (Project Manager), Autumn Young, Jason Coffey, Ben Tuner, Dale Woster, Eben Upton, Lucas Seymour, David Curtis, and Alex Lozano Gonzalez.

UAA Professor Ketner and his Architect, Engineer, and Construction Management (CM) students gather for a field trip at Gladdis Wood Elementary School in Anchorage. This is part of the AET A102 Methods of Building Construction class. Professor Ketner wants his students to acquire the skill set necessary for their careers in the construction field.

Leading the group of UAA student is Mike Cohen, Project Manager for Cornerstone Construction and a graduate of the UAA Constructing Management Program. UAA is the only college in the state that offers a 2-year and 4-year degree, both with separate accreditation. The CM program is supported in large part by the Construction Industry itself. Included as part of the CM Program, students are required to attend and complete the CM A295 Internship class. In this class students are required to earn a specific amount of hours in the field working first hand with professionals in the trade.

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The *Mat-Su Monitor* is the student newspaper of Mat-Su College. The *Monitor* aims to report college news and serve as a forum for student writing. The *Monitor* seeks submissions of news, editorials, and short fiction from all students, staff, and faculty of Mat-Su College. All students are invited to attend the *Monitor*'s weekly meetings. Details on participating in or submitting content to the *Monitor* can be found at http://matsu.alaska.edu/office/student-government/student-clubs/mat-su-monitor/.

The Mat-Su Monitor is funded by the Mat-Su College Student Government Association and our advertisers. For information on advertising in the *Monitor* contact Micah Muer at mwmuer@alaska.edu or 907-745-9758.

The opinions expressed the *Monitor* article are solely those of its authors. They do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policy of the college, its students and employees, or the wider University of Alaska system.

Get involved in your school newspaper!

The Mat-Su Monitor

Are you:

- A reporter
- An artist or cartoonist
- A fiction writer
- A poet
- Interested in marketing, sales, or accounting
- A graphic designer

Join us!

Mondays and Thursdays
12:00-12:50pm
Library room (OLB) 213

For more information, or to submit articles online, search Mat-Su Monitor on the college website

Summer Science Academy Scholarships Available to children of Mat-Su students

Mat-Su College Student Government is offering twenty (20) scholarships to children of students attending Mat-Su College. These scholarships are for the Summer Science Academy that is held on the Mat-Su College campus. There are four (4) different classes:

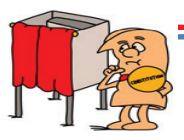
- Mini-Med School I, June 5-9, 8:30-noon.
- Crime Scene Investigation, June 12-16, 8:30-noon.
- Health Care Career Exploration, June 19-23, 8:30-noon.
- Mini-Med School II, June 26-30, 8:30-noon.

All classes have spaces available. Please stop by Student Government in JKB 114 and pick up an application form. All students are welcome to apply. Applying should take only a few minutes. These scholarships are for 6th, 7th, and 8th grader students. Please stop by and apply.

Student Government Council Scoop

By Philip Jean

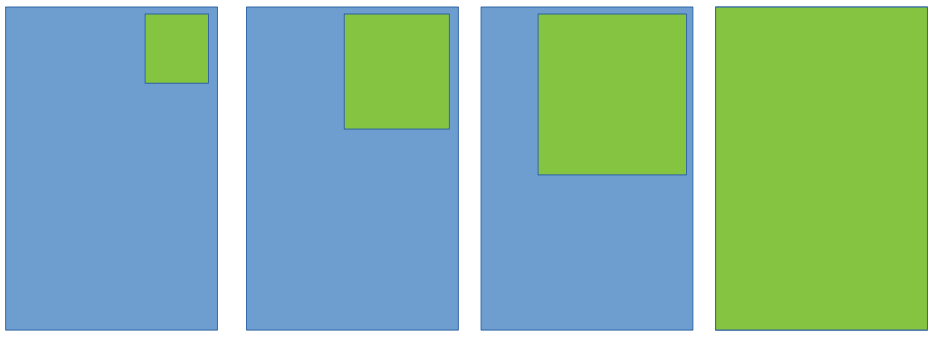
DON'T FORGET TO VOTE FOR STUDENT GOVERNMENT PRESIDENT APRIL 25TH & 26TH



This article is written to inform the students of Matanuska-Susitna College (MSC) about what is being discussed in Student Government Council (SGC) meetings, and to inform the Student Body of what their SGC is doing for them. Here is the scoop.

This article covers SGC meetings from March 22 to April 12. SGC meetings are open to all students and starts at 11:50a.m. every Wednesday in room JKB 108.

- SGC has three new members. Note: in the last issue we misspelled the name of new Senator Claire Kudyba. Our apologies.
- The Frolf Baskets are in. SGC will be working on getting the course approved and put in soon.
- The Carbon crew is meeting in JKB 114 on April 22, 2017 at 12:00 for Highway Clean-up. The Event will run until complete.
- Christian Society Club made Blankets and donated them.
- The library will be on extended hours the last two weeks of the semester.



3" by 3" $75 b/w $125 color
5" by 5" $125 b/w $175 color
7" by 7" $175 b/w $225 color
10" by 14" $300 color $375 color back page

Advertisers sought!

Advertising in the *Mat-Su Monitor* is an affordable way to reach a wide demographic. Circulation of around 5,000, an educated readership, and affordable rates. Mention special summer discount code "Sunflower" for a 10% discount. Contact uaa_mscmonitor@alaska.edu or 907-745-9758.

MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Play an important role on the Mat-Su College Campus. Being on a committee can help to enhance your career, give you a chance to give back to your community, and give you the opportunity to challenge yourself by helping to shape your society.

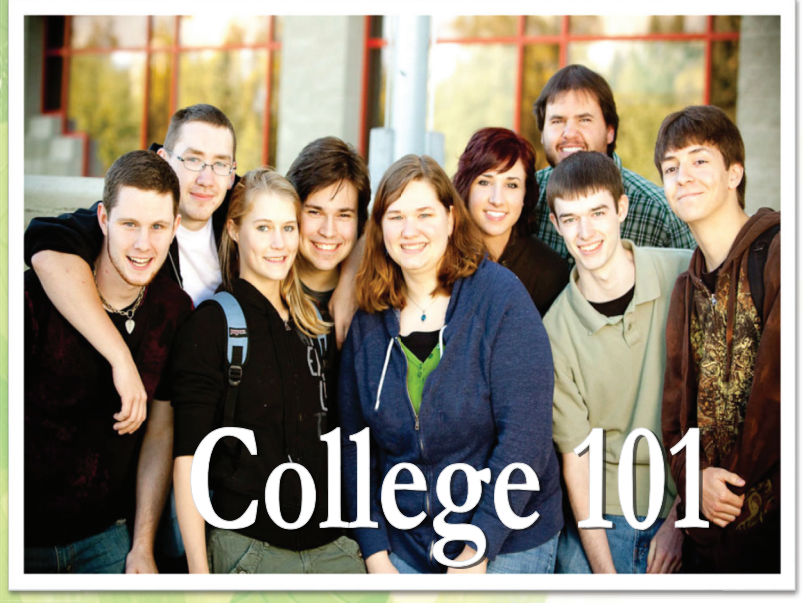
Current Mat-Su College Committees open to the student body:

- Board of Elections
- Concert Committee
- Constitution Committee
- Dance Committee
- Finance Committee
- Health and Wellness Committee
- Mat-Su Carbon Crew
- Pizza Committee
- Planning Committee
- Renewable Energies Committee
- Sports Committee

Or join one of the student clubs. Clubs are a great place to meeet like minded people, have fun, learn new things and relax.

- Alaska Native CultureClub
- Christian Society of Fraternity and Service
- Drama Club
- Human Services Club
- Mat-Su Carbon Crew
- Mat-Su Dance Club
- Mat-Su Monitor
- MSC Veteran's Club
- Paramedic Association

Joining a committee or club looks good on resumes as well as gives you a chance to connect with fellow students, staff and faculty. You owe it to yourself to try them out. If you don't see a club that interests you, you can start one of your own. Student Government will fund you up to $300 to cover expenses. You can pick up a form at the Student Government office in JKB 114, near the café.



Are you ready to start?

Mat-Su College is offering free College 101 information sessions to help explain things like admission, financial aid, and choosing a career path.

Summer Sessions start at 3:00 p.m. in FSM 104

Returning adults, high school juniors and seniors are encourage to attend.

Upcoming Sessions

April 13 & 27
May 11 & 25
June 8 & 22

Call 907-745-9762 to reserve a seat!

Mat-Su College
University of Alaska Anchorage

Heather's Top 8 Ways to Fail a Class

By Heather Deadmond

#8. Procrastinate on *everything.*

Due tomorrow? Do tomorrow.

#7. Don't bother talking to your classmates or professor.

Many people have said that your classmates and professors are there to help you when you need it. They are handy for such things as reminding you of due dates, sparking ideas, and engaging in healthy debate and discussion. But what do *they* know?

Trying to do everything yourself is a sure-fire way of reaching your goal.

#6. Leave as early as possible.

There are so many better things you could be doing with your time other than studying for a successful future, right?

That lunch date is *so* much more important than the upcoming exam review day!

You gotta do what you gotta do.

#5. Homework? That exists?

I've heard of this thing they call "homework". Apparently it's not fun, and definitely useful for passing a class. Best to avoid it all together. Put those due dates from your mind and keep watching Netflix. Especially when *Stranger Things* season 2 comes out this Halloween, everyone's grades are going to plummet anyway. (I know mine will!)

#4. Sleep in!

Your brain needs sleep, much more than it needs knowledge. Good for you for taking care of what's really important!

#3. Don't read anything that you're assigned.

You may have heard from some people that reading assignments are super easy to "fudge" by reading the last chapter on the assignment and calling it good. Those people are absolutely correct. Psh, reading. What a useless way to pass the time.

#2. Take an extra-long break.

Spring Break may be "officially" over, but it's never too late to go on another one! Take a week off for no reason and make sure no one knows. That is a great plan. It's still spring, after all.

#1. Don't go to class.

The number one, tried and true way to achieve your goal of failing a class is to ***just don't go***! No one is going to notice your absence, and I'm sure the professor will be able to keep up with who is in their class and who isn't in the midst of their busy work days.

In fact, they probably will drop you from the class, but you have to pay for it anyway. When you find yourself short a few hundred dollars by the time June rolls around, don't worry about it. I'm sure you didn't need that money or anything. Your GPA will thank you for it, and you may be able to graduate college by some miracle… Eventually.

Disclaimer: The views and opinions presented in this piece are purely satirical and the advice therein should not be heeded.

These "tips" may not represent the views or opinions of the staff of the Mat-Su Monitor or of Mat-Su College.

(Seriously, students, please don't do any of these things if you want to have a successful college career.)

Standing Up For Yourself

By K.B. Holbrook III, Mat-Su College Career Counselor

One of the toughest things to learn as an employee is, how to stand up for yourself when an employer asks you to do something you are uncomfortable with. I've certainly had my own struggles with this. I can still remember vividly the first time I told an employer no; I was 19 years old, working in the college dormitories, and I was preparing rooms for the start of fall semester. Part of this included checking on double rooms that had just one resident over the summer as students often take over the whole room and don't put things back in order before the new roommate arrives. This was the task that would evolve into the first time I told an employer "no."

It all started when I checked up on one of my more eccentric residents. As expected he had exploded his belongings over the double room. I instructed him he would need to clean up and that I would return in two hours to check that the other side was move in ready. I returned to a disturbing scene. He had mostly cleaned up the roommate's side, with the exception of some white feathers left on and around the bed and a pair of women's underwear left on the bed. This wasn't a prank for the new roommate, but rather used goods that were not cleaned up. Conveniently, my resident "had to run" as soon as I showed up so I was at a loss of what to do. When I told my boss, I was asked if I would get a trash bag and clean up the mess myself. Now, I had been working since I was 14 and had never told an employer "no". I surprised myself how fast I said it that day. When my boss looked at me, somewhat shocked, I explained, "Kate, I'm sorry, but I do not get paid enough to pick up strange girls panties." Luckily for me, my boss agreed with my sentiment and we got to problem solve together how to handle the situation. I don't think my wording was the most appropriate or professional, but I had a good rapport with my supervisor, and either way I think it is important to know where you draw the line.

Now, most students I have worked with have not had cases as extreme or surprising as mine. But even in mundane situations, saying "no" can be just as important. For example, I have worked with a number of students who have had issues with employers trying to make them work more hours than they can handle as a student or even asking students to skip class to work. Most students who I have convinced to talk to their employers have had their wishes respected to remain part-time or not work during class times. When students don't talk to their employers it usually ends in the employee quitting. So, having limits and being willing to say no can be good for both employee and employer as happy employees are loyal employees. Of course reasons to say "no" or set limits could also include safety concerns, ethical issues, or even a conflict of interest. It may be something you expect to happen that hasn't occurred yet. Maybe it is something that was okay on occasion, but now it is becoming a regular occurrence. Even though it can be uncomfortable to start the conversation, it is still very important in retaining a comfortable work environment. For students who want to discuss their work situation before approaching their boss, remember your Career Counselor (me) is available in Student Services to help you talk it out and generate solutions.

MATH

Fridays with Faculty

MATH

Every Friday of the semester, with the exception of 4-28, in SGH 103.

You must check the schedule posted on the door of that room for the times that faculty will available for assistance.

The room will be available from 8am to 3pm.

Math Cram Jam

The Math Department

invites students to study with faculty. Saturdays

April 29

9:00 - 2:00 In Snodgrass Hall

Food and beverages are served and sponsored by MSC Student Government

HAVE SOME QUESTIONS? TRY ONE OF MAT-SU COLLEGE'S LEARNING SERVICES.

Elizabeth J Fallon Learning Center*

OLB 121 745-9772
http://matsu.alaska.edu/offices/the-learning-center/tutoring/

WRITING - JKB 107
Mon & Tues 9:00 - 1:00
Fri 10:00 - 2:00

MATH - JKB 107
Mon & Wed 10:00 - 4:00
Tues 10:00 - 3:00
Thurs 10:00 - 2:00

ASL - FSM 207
Mon &Wed 2:00 - 4:00

***Tutoring is available only for students enrolled in MSC courses. Hours are subject to change**

Tutors available January 17-May 5 **JKB 107**

Alaska State Library provides the Live Homework Hotline at tutor.com/alaska from 1pm-2am

www.tutor.com/military for military families who qualify

Khan Academy: Videos (math, science, economics, history) http://www.khanacademy.org/

Foreign Language: http://libraries.mangolanguages.com/alaska/start (includes English)

Writing: http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/index.html
http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/rules7e/#t_669460
http://www.paperrater.com/
http://blog.apastyle.org/apastyle/

tutor.com

By Art Corvelay

It's 12:41 AM. Empty energy drink cans and candy bar wrappers litter your desk. You've just finished the last sentence of the last paragraph of your big paper – the one due at 9:00 AM. You hoped to get one of the college's Learning Resource Center's English tutors to read over it, but now it's too late. You're SOL.

Or maybe not.

Turns out all Alaska residents are eligible for live homework help through an online service called Tutor.com. These tutors can help with subjects ranging from Calculus to World History and nearabout anything in-between.

Using Tutor.com's services couldn't be easier. Just go to www.tutor.com/alaska, pick a subject, and then click "Connect Now." Within moments you will be able to chat with a real tutor; you can even share files for them to review or draw on a virtual whiteboard.

Still not convinced? Here's a few more selling points. Tutors are available from *every day of the* week from noon to 2 AM (goodbye, pants). The website actually works well. Tutoring is available to students from kindergarten to college. (Now somebody else can help your kids with their homework.) It's entirely free.

Convinced now? Good. Just don't forget about the college's Learning Resource Center; its tutors aren't available until 2 AM, but they're nice people all the same.

Additional Help available in the Learning Center

Rosetta-Stone Language Software

Computer Stations

Textbooks, Videos and Other Resources

Microsoft Office, for Free

By Art Corvelay

As a student affiliated with a UAA campus, you have free access to Microsoft's Office 365 website.

Office 365 offers browser-based versions of some the popular Office programs: Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. These lack a few features found in their desktop counterparts, but make up for that by saving your files to "the cloud" and by allowing multiple users to simultaneously edit the same document.

Better still, Office 365 users have the option to install the full 2016 versions of Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Simply sign into Office 365 and click the "Install Now" button.

You can access Office 365 by visiting https://portal.office.com and signing in with your UA username followed by @alaska.edu.

Students who want a free, no-strings-attached office suite that will be available long past their graduation should look at LibreOffice (https://www.libreoffice.org/).

Northern Dragon Prospecting Club

By Jack Rogers

Like to be in the Alaska sun, enjoying life and the best frontier? How about joining the Northern Dragon Prospecting Campus Club?

Our outings might lead us to gold, gems and other valuable things, having adventures where friends, family and people you like all hang out together and have fun.

How about camping for a week or more at Peters Creek? Weekenders are fine and welcome too! Imagine sitting by the campfire at night, telling exciting stories and just relaxing. We can explore Alaska close to home or go on adventure a bit further away, searching out the secrets Alaska has been hiding.

Bring your skills on prospecting, we can teach each other. Bring your skills of cooking on an open fire. Bring your family so they can have an adventure and make treasured memories that will last forever.

Come join the Northern Dragon Prospecting Campus Club. Everyone is welcome. Remember that safety and prospecting go hand in hand to make a great team.

Hope to see you soon. Call Mat-Su College at 907-745-9759 and ask for student government, or call 907-232-9039 and tell Jack Rogers you want to join or ask for more information.

Have a great adventure this summer.

Northern Dragon Prospecting Campus Club Planned Adventures

Planned adventure for this summer so far:

May 8, 9, 10: Willow side of Hatcher Pass, possibly by Lucky Shot Mine. We will set up camp, possible have a trained CPR teacher giving lessons to help make this a safe and fun adventure. Training on equipment use will be available.

July 2-9: Trapper Creek Area. We will have a mining camp set up, with training in how to use the different types of equipment and techniques, including sluice box, panning, dredging and extracting to name a few. Bring your smile and a desire to make this a wonderful adventure.

August 4-13: Trapper Creek or Circle Area. We will have a mining camp set up and will help people learn how to use the different tools of the trade. Good food and good memories for all who attend.

Everyone welcome! You only need a desire to have fun and enjoy the outdoors. Hope to see you there. Call Jack Rogers 232-9039, or email jackrogers29@yahoo.com. Let me know what you like to do and the tools you have.

EDITOR'S DISCLAIMER: Some of the events advertised in this article (and in the paper generally) are scheduled to happen almost four months from the date this issue goes to print. The Mat-Su Monitor cannot guarantee that times and locations will not change. Readers interested in events advertised in the paper are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED to contact event organizers for further details.

Make your own trail map

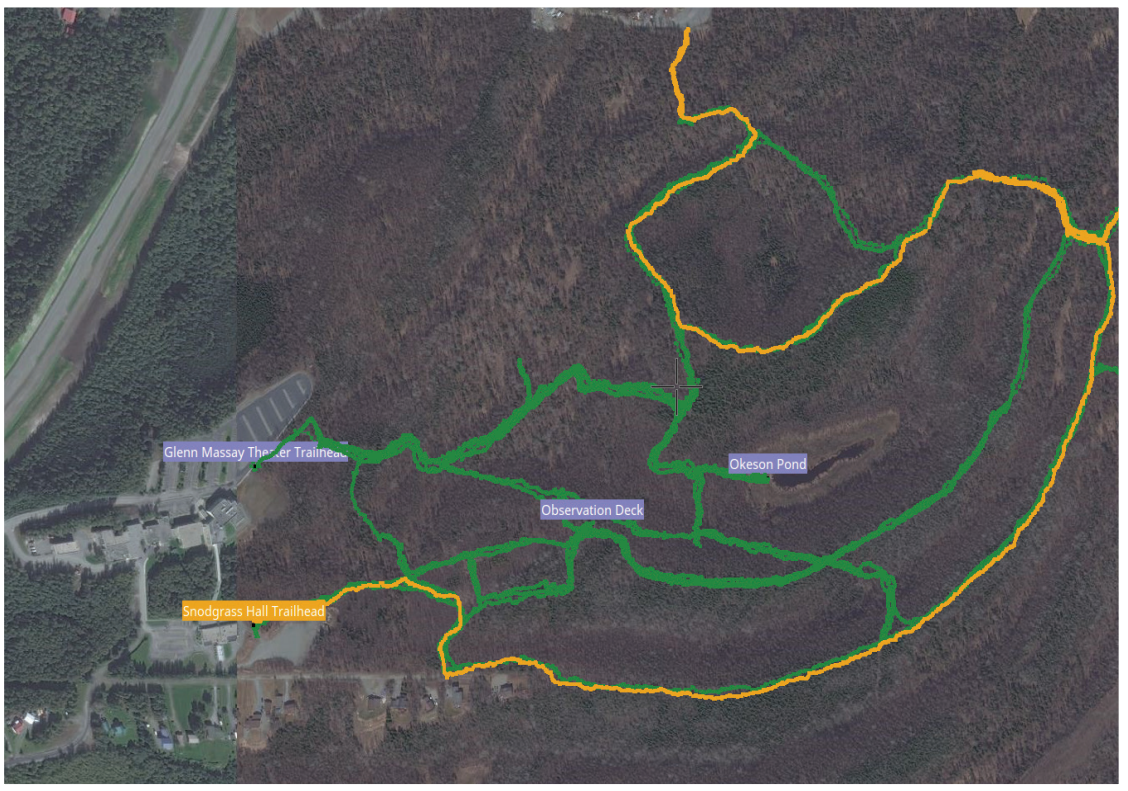
By Aladdin Schmidt

Introduction

This article is a high-level tutorial on how to use your smartphone and free, open source software to create a record of the routes you take as you hike, bike, drive, or generally move about. These recorded routes, or rather tracks, can be overlaid on a map – which we'll call a track-map – to show where you've been. But you can also use these track-maps for navigation once you're back in the field. You can even use your GPS data to collect statistics such as how your walking speed changes depending on elevation. Pretty cool stuff – or so you might think if your summer plans also involve rock tumblers and fantasy novels.

taken together, comprise a single track (and a single computer file). Oh, and there's a thing called waypoints. I reckon these are just trackpoints with supplemental data such as text or photos. In the map above a label like "Okeson Pond" is a waypoint.

The map above is made up of 23,376 trackpoints contained in eight different tracks (one of which is highlighted in yellow as an illustration).



Partial map of trails behind campus, with waypoints labeled.

Definitions

First, let me define some terms. These definitions are hampered by my limited understanding of maps, GPS, and things generally.

Consider the map above. If you could zoom-in you would see that the green and yellow lines are simply individual points. These points, or trackpoints, represent individual records of where I was at at a particular moment. These trackpoints collect information on my location in terms of latitude and longitude, the elevation, the time, and so on. When you assemble multiple trackpoints you have a track. Your walk on Tuesday might've resulted in thousands of trackpoints which, when

Requirements

You will need:

- A device with GPS functionality. Because you have friends and other silly interests, you probably mistake your GPS device as smartphone.
- A program to record tracks. OsmAnd is free, open source, and works on iOS and Android. OSMTracker is a simpler alternative but is exclusive to Android.
- A program to combine these tracks with other map layers. You can do this with OsmAnd on your phone. If you want to use a desktop computer, try Viking (*https://sourceforge.net/projects/viking/*).
- The energy of a thousand lions and the confidence of a thousand Rudolph Valentinos. You will need to leave your darkened room and move around a lot, after all.

Continued on page 15

The HUMS Club is proud to announce their 'Spring Series for Life.' Three interactive talks will be presented this month to address various topics MSC community members have expressed interest in.

Food will be provided, as well as a limited supply of free books that are referenced in the talks. These are research-driven presentations focused on practical application, and are Dragon-Approved for Journey stamps.

Pre-registration is required –all you need to do is send an e-mail listing the talk/s you want to attend, and the name/s of the attendee/s to: dgbannan@alaska.edu

MARRIAGE/RELATIONSHIPS: Principles that make relationships work. What does research say are common traits to marriages that last? Does your relationship have some elements that are hindering growth and intimacy? Come participate in this interactive class and learn some practical steps to make your relationship even better!

April 22nd, 2:30pm-5pm. Snodgrass Hall 119

PARENTING: Parenting with a plan. Being a parent is tough work, especially when you aren't sure how to best address difficulties that arise. For problematic behavior, poor grades, unhealthy use of technology (or anything else), you can have a plan! Come learn some foundational guidelines to build a practical system in your home to address your concerns in a way that is positive and gets everyone on the same page.

April 28th, 10am-12:30pm. Snodgrass Hall 119

DE-STRESS BY INCREASING LEARNING SKILLS: Effective strategies to learn and teach. Do you read and re-read the textbook and still not remember what it says? Do you spend hours preparing and delivering a lecture only to realize no one remembers anything you reviewed? Come and learn effective, research-based ways to make learning stick!

April 28th, 1:00-3:30pm. Snodgrass Hall 119.

Machetanz Arts Festival at Mat-Su College
University of Alaska Anchorage
June 3 2017
FEATURED ARTIST — Ray Gamradt
Friday June 2 ● Reception—6:00 p.m. ● Lecture—7:00 p.m.
Both Reception and Lecture are Free and Open to the Public
Saturday June 3 — Workshop
"Bouquet" by Ray Gamradt
Mat-Su College
University of Alaska Anchorage
8295 E College Drive, Palmer
UAA/MSC is an EEO/AA employer and educational institution.
Machetanz Arts Festival Sponsors
Founding Sponsors
Rasmuson Foundation
First National Bank Alaska
ConocoPhillips
2017 Sponsors
Frontiersman
Make-A-Scene
95.5 FM The Pass
More than 15 ART-MAKING WORKSHOPS!
For more information and registration link go to
matsu.alaska.edu/MAF

If you have questions contact Dr. Felicia Desimini, Art Department Coordinator
Phone: 745-9755
Email: fdesimini@alaska.edu

Mat-Su College is sponsoring a series of Dragon-approved activities

By Jeff Walker

Mat-Su College is sponsoring a series of Dragon-approved activities for students, staff, and faculty this Spring semester to help you stay healthy and well-balanced as you make your way through this exciting, often hectic time in life.

Be sure to check the Journey website at http://matsu.alaska.edu/journey/ weekly for updates, full activity descriptions, and to sign up for events requiring advance registration (all events are free unless noted).

Pick up your Field Guide around campus when you see them.

Collect Dragon stamps on the Field Guide by attending events.

Submit Dragon stamps for prizes and entry in prize-drawings! For prizes and directions on winning, see the Field Guide.

Remember, when you attend a Dragon-approved event, make sure you get your Field Guide stamped. Field Guides will not be stamped retroactively: You must collect your stamp at the event.

Mat-Su College Journey activities and behavioral care services for students are supported by a Healthy Impact Grant from the Mat-Su Health Foundation

Here are the upcoming events:

April 21, 2017 – Student Showcase Conference.
Visit the http://matsu.alaska.edu/office/student-services-showcase/ for more details.

- Time and location to be announced (Connection Trail)

"A" work pays off! Presentations f the paper, project, research report, or any MSC class assignment on which you earned an "A" you entered in the MSC Student Showcase. You can win prizes, but more importantly, a notation on your resume that you participated can make you stand out above your competition for a job or acceptance into a competitive degree program.

April 27, 2017 – Thoughtful Thursday – Stress and Relaxation

- Noon – 1 pm, FSM 200 (Off-the-Beaten Path Trail)

Bring your lunch or dinner and join these informative discussions led by Deborah Bannan, Assistant Professor of Human Services.

Collect Your Prizes

Bring your Field Guide to Academic Affairs, JKB Room 133, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 5 pm to collect your prize(s).

- 5 stamps: Get a Frisbee (while supplies last)
- 6 stamps: Take a Pedometer (while supplies last)
- 7 stamps: Enter the drawing to win a T-shirt (one entry)
- 8-9 stamps: Enter the drawing to win a choice of yoga punch card, REI gift certificate, or MSC Bookstore gift certificate (up to 3 entries, while supplies last)

Pick up prizes as you reach each level. Deadline to enter drawings is April 28, 2017.

JOURNEY Mat-Su College

Early 2015 12 inch MacBook review

By Warren McClure

This month I would like to talk about the 12 inch MacBook. The first thing that caught my attention was the breathtaking design of this laptop. How could something so thin and light have this type of processing power? It's just so unreal and exciting at the same time, it's unlike any other computer I have used before. With 8GB of DDR3L 1600MHz ram, a powerful core M processor and solid state drive with capacities up to 512GB, this laptop has enough power to handle most tasks you throw at it. Within this review I will be talking about my overall experience, why I bought the 12 inch MacBook, and if it's still worth buying in 2017.

MY OVERALL EXPERIENCE

My overall experience hasn't been perfect but has been a great one. Having the ability to pop my MacBook into my backpack and go anywhere is amazing. It doesn't even feel like I have anything in my backpack. Sometimes it even scares me because I end up thinking I forgot my MacBook somewhere. I have never experienced a crash on this computer but have experienced some minor frame drops within the operating system which is normal since this laptop used older integrated Intel graphics (HD 5300). Many tabs open in Safari works well thanks to the 8GB DDR3L ram. A few times I have had about 12 different tabs opened in Safari -- three being YouTube videos -- while having Microsoft Office opened editing a word document with my music playing in the background, not once did it slow down. I have also noticed when I am watching a video online or doing many different things at once the battery life drops from 8 ½ hours to about 5 hours which is understandable since the processor is having to use more power to keep up with everything. Overall I am happy with what this laptop has to offer, it's not perfect but it's great for somebody like me who needs something light, small and powerful enough to handle most tasks.

REASONS WHY I BOUGHT THE 12 INCH MACBOOK

1. Design - The first thing that caught my eye was the phenomenal look of this machine. It was nothing like I have ever seen before. It's just so thin, coming in at .13 inches at its thickest point, only weighing 2 pounds while powerful enough to do what I need to. Till this day, I am still impressed with what Apple was able to accomplish. I look forward to what they have to offer in the future.

2. Power - The Intel Core M processor within this laptop uses just 5 watts at max which is impressive to say the least. The processor is so energy efficient its able to cool off passively in other words it doesn't need a fan to cool it down because it uses the aluminum body to cool itself down. This alone is just mind boggling because just ten years ago you would have a hard time finding a laptop that cooled passively and the ones that you did find were slow and were just unusable. The 12 inch MacBook with the 1.2GHz core M processor has enough power to surf the web, watch YouTube, play some light games, edit documents and even edit full HD (1920 by 1080) videos with ease.

3. Screen - I don't know about you guys but I myself enjoy a bright screen and with the 12 inch MacBook I get that and more. Thanks to the 350 nits of brightness that this screen offers I can be in a well lit room or outside and still see the content on my screen. The screen is breath taking, with a resolution of 2304 by 1440 along with 102% Adobe sRGB. The text looks sharp and colors look great. Overall I am pleased with the screen on the 12 inch MacBook.

4. Battery Life - The battery life on the 12 inch MacBook is great, giving around 8 ½ hours on a full charge doing basic things such as watching YouTube videos, typing documents or just surfing the web. If you plan on editing any type of videos or photos keep in mind you won't get the 8 ½ hours of battery life that I get, you'll probably get around 3 maybe 4 hours at most. Charging the laptop takes about 2 hours to get a full charge which if you ask me isn't bad.

5. Keyboard and Mouse pad - MacBooks are known for having great track pads and keyboard. The 12 inch MacBook is different in some ways and that's not a bad thing. Apple took their mouse pad and made even better by changing the mechanics on the inside of the trackpad. The older MacBooks (2014 and older) use something called the diving board mechanism within the trackpad which in other words won't allow

Continued on page 15

Get involved in your school newspaper!

The Mat-Su Monitor

The Monitor is looking for:

- Reporters (bring your own article or take an assignment
- Artists and cartoonists
- Fiction writers and poets
- Students interested in marketing, sales, or accounting
- Graphic designers or anyone with desktop publishing experience
- Anyone else who wants to participate in a college newspaper!

For more information, or to submit article online, search Mat-Su Monitor on the college website

Mondays and Thursdays
12:00-12:50pm
Library room 213

Business owners!

The Mat-Su Monitor is a great place to advertise your business or event. The Monitor has a wide circulation, with thousands of copies inserted in the Frontiersman and distributed thoughrout the Valley.

We also have low rates:

Ad Size	Cost, B/W	Cost, Color
3" x 3"	$75	$125
5" x 5"	$125	$175
7" x 7"	$175	$225
Full page	$275	$300
Full page, back	Always color	$375

Moreover, the Monitor runs relatively few ads, which ensures that your ad will stand out. Finally, advertising in the Monitor demonstrates your support for local students. For more on advertising, call 745-9758.

Mat-Su College

CONGRATULATIONS MAT-SU COLLEGE GRADUATES!

2017

OCCUPATIONAL ENDORSEMENT CERTIFICATES

Office Foundations
Jeffrey Dillon Erwin
Guido Kevin Jacobs

Refrigeration and Heating Technology
Timothy Robin Miller

Sustainable Energy
Cayle David Cleman

Veterinary Assisting
Therese Daunnte Mechell Haynes
Camille N. Kevan

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

Accounting
Morgan Rynee Andrews
Danielle Anne Apthorp
Michele Marie Bailey
Katherine Merideth Coffey
Kayla Gene Geisinger
Ilona Ilnitsky
Juliet Natasha Jasper
Leon Yoshito Kitagawa
Christina Erica Kulakevich
Heather McGee
Alexandria Jade Ramsey
Kong B. Thao

Computer Information and Office Systems
Jeffrey Dillon Erwin

Computer Systems Technology
Lawrence Dwaine Green
Hannah Lee Holder
Guido Kevin Jacobs
Jeremiah Darrel Sonnenberg
James J. Wheeler

General Business
Deanna Denay Earle
Derek Edward Homme
Stuart C. Lamirand
Melissa Sue Marshall
Elise Nicole Mikulecky
Cory Louis Peterson
Milissa Ann Vent
James Benjamin Wright

Human Services
Tyanda Nicole Lavendusky
Megan Anne Orrell
Alex Pineiro
Karl Robert Soderstrom
Steven Leslie Traeger
Jeffery LaForrest Walker

Nursing
Megan M. Anderson (UAA)

Paramedical Technology
Sarah Lynn Carver
Katrina Anne Knowlton
Christopher Lee Ling
Justin Michael Taylor

Refrigeration and Heating Technology
Cayle David Cleman
Luke Steven Faulkner
Ismail Mohamed Ibrahim
Roberto Calitis Vina
Todd Roderick Walker

Small Business Administration
Morgan Rynee Andrews
Melody Ann Harris
Kelly Marie Robbins

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

General Program
Pamela Lorraine Aki
Edwin James Russell Anderson
Kleigh Christopher Anderton
Jamie Renee Antonson
Corrina Ann Atkins
Patrick Bruce Babin III
Jeremiah John Bang
Ariana Rose Boney-Catone
Seth James Bowen
Sarah V. Brahaney
Paul Owen Broderson
Jeffrey T. Burnette
Mikhayla Anne Chapman
Jennifer Linn Chesbro
Cayle David Cleman
Daniel William Contini
Michelle C. Cooney
Cheyenne Ashley Doto
Savannah L. Egan
Derek J. Evans
Lyssa Rene Farnsworth
Casandra Lee Gallagher
Rachel Lyn Goodall
Scott Maynard Green
Shaun Alan Groshong
Michael Seraphim Haley
Destiny Danielle Hamann
Brandon Alexander Hanks
Joe-Mikel Harsh
Jeffrey Alan Holley
Ismail Mohamed Ibrahim
Jay I. Jennings
Melissa Lynne Jones
Shayla Vernice Jordan
Mariko Elisabeth Kays
Stacey Renee Kessler
John Hugh King
John Andrew Knight
Travis Beau Knight
Scott James Knighten
Brooks A. Larson
Douglas Joseph Lentz
Cody Wayne Lewis
Rebecca E. Manthey
Melody Hope McIlroy
Larissa Jean McMahill
Misty Keren Miller
Joseph Andrew Miller
Ashley Renee Morgan
Jonathan Brandon Neisler
Renee Michelle Newman
Teri Lynn Olsen
Rachael Shawna O'Malley
Samantha Elaine O'Mara
Heather Ruth Ramirez-Nunn
Jeremy K. Reeder
George William Rinkevage III
Sierra Rose Sackett
Riana Mishael Renee Sather
Sierra Rose Schnell
Brittany M. Shattuck
Leif Ericson Skow
Eugenia Miranda Smith
Donna Marie Smith
Jacklyn R. Sorenson
Darla Christine Soulak
Gabrielle Lynn St Clair
Stephanie Nicole Steele
Kristin Marie Steward
Amanda Courtney Stoddard
Matthew I. Swanson (UAA)
Molly R. Swanson
Joseph James Trask
Lauren Joyce Waite
Brittny Lee Warnock
Joshua Kouhei Watanabe
Rachel Lindsay Wyatt

OTHER UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA GRADUATES JOINING OUR COMMENCEMENT

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA ANCHORAGE

Associate of Arts
Clifton N. Benton
Trevor K. Farnsworth

Bachelor of Science, Environment, and Society
Brandy N. Graham

Master of Science, Project Management
Brian K. Swanson

Bachelor of Science, Health Sciences
Brittany S. Carie

Bachelor of Science, Nursing Science
Rhoda Woodworth

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA SOUTHEAST

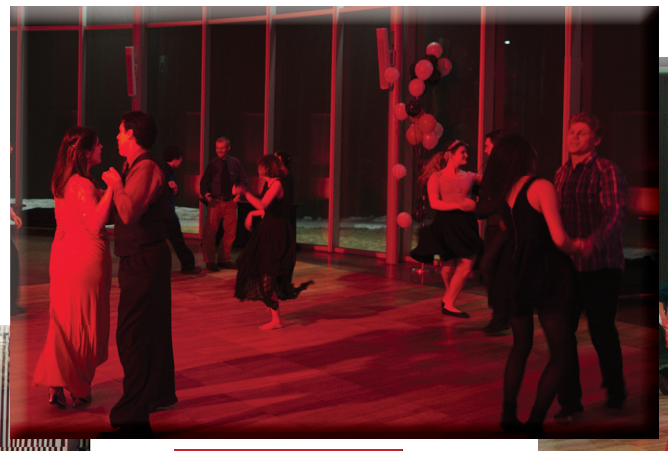
Bachelor of Business, Business Administration
Gregory L. Bultron
Leona M. Shell

Master of Arts in Teaching, Education
Karina Warner

Take 53 students, several helpful math professors, two classrooms, tens of thousands of calories worth of snacks, and thousands of mind-numbing arithmetical problems ranging from addition to subtraction and well beyond -- take all that and what do you have? A Math Department Cram Jam. A Cram Jam is a day-long test prep session. The Math Department holds Cram Jams about three Saturdays per semester. The next Cram Jam will be held on April 29, from 9 AM to 2 PM, in Snodgrass 117 and Snodgrass 119.

If you need help between the roughly monthly Cram Jams the math department can still help; they have more frequent but shorter and smaller Fridays with Faculty study sessions, held those weeks without a Saturday Cram Jam. For a calendar of events please see signage in Snodgrass Hall or talk to a Math Department professor.

On March 24 Student Government put on a dance in the lobby of the Glenn Massay Theater. The theme for this semester's dance was the 1950s. About 40 students came to dance. They enjoyed an already-refined setting that was only improved by Student Government's fine decorations and spread. The atmosphere was further accentuated by the students who took the dance's theme to heart and dressed in elegant Audrey Hepburn-style dresses with gloves or sported leather jackets and slicked-back hair. Special thanks are in order for Student Government President Jack Rogers, Student Government Senator Sarah Brahaney, and many others who volunteered their time and energy.



1950'S SPRING GALA

EASTER EGG HUNT

On the Saturday before Easter student government sponsored and organized its first Easter Egg Hunt for students and their children. Student Government reports that, in what was hopefully the start of an annual tradition, they gave away

- 120 hot dogs
- 60 hamburgers
- 100 Easter baskets
- Over 200 pounds of candy
- 60 stuffed animals
- 20 hand-made caps

But the real reason there were too many smiles to count? The Easter Bunny stopped by to meet the kids and officiate the numerous egg-hunts held throughout the day.

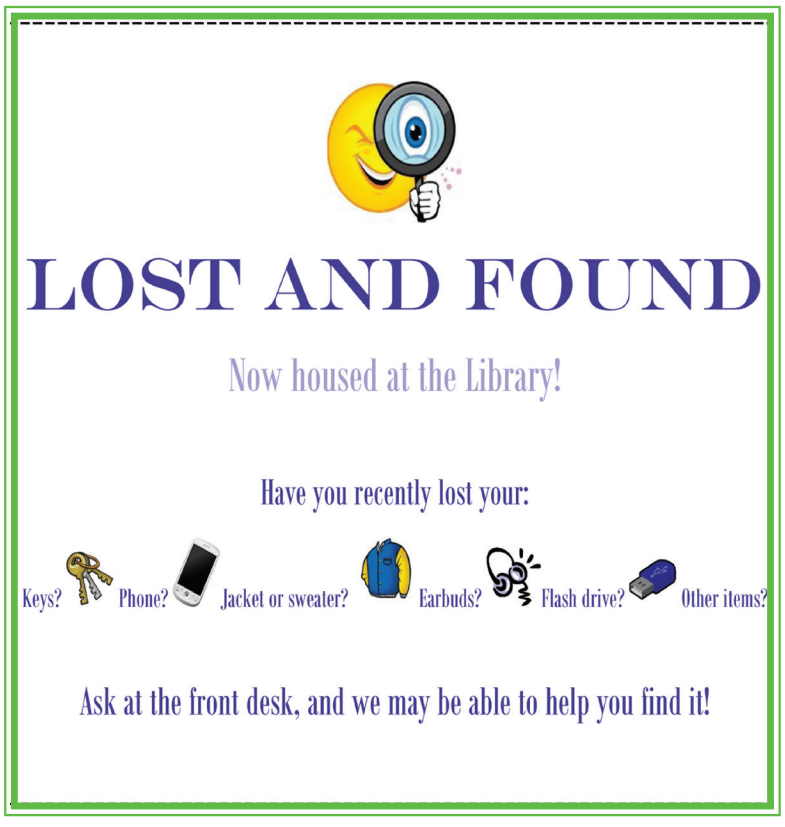
The MSC Christian Society steps up to make an additional 30 blankets for HeartReach's 2017 Annual Community Baby Shower event.

Photo of Solomon Thomas by Michael Li, CC BY-NC https://flic.kr/p/LofxfX

Get involved with YOUR paper!

The Mat-Su Monitor is open to students of all experience levels. A paper like ours always needs writers, artists, graphic designers, advertisement coordinators, photographers, and more (maybe you can contribute something we haven't even thought of)!

Meetings: Mondays and Thursdays, 12:00 to 12:50, in OLB 214 (upstairs in library).



NFL Mock Draft 2017

By Sam Ouellette

This is our sports correspondent's best shot at predicting the 2017 NFL draft. He has done a good job in the past. – editor.

Cleveland (1-15)
Needs: LB, RB, DL
Pick: Myles Garrett DE Texas A&M

Carolina (6-10) (Mock Trade with San-Francisco)
Needs: QB, LB, WR
Pick: Solomon Thomas DE Alabama

Chicago (3-13)
Needs: WR, QB, DB
Pick: Jonathan Allen DE Alabama

Jacksonville (3-13)
Needs: OL, RB, S
Pick: Jamal Adams S LSU

Tennessee - from Los Angeles Rams (4-12)
Needs: DB, WR, DL
Pick: Marshon Lattimore CB Ohio ST.

New York Jets (5-11)
Needs: QB, WR, OL
Pick: Deshaun Watson QB Clemson

Los Angeles Chargers (5-11)
Needs: WR, OL, DL
Pick: Malik Hooker S Ohio St.

San Francisco (2-14) (Mock trade with Carolina)
Needs: CB, DL, OL
Pick: Leonard Fournette RB LSU

Cincinnati (6-9-1)
Needs: OL, DE, WR
Pick: Mike Williams WR Clemson

Buffalo (7-9)
Needs: T, WR, QB
Pick: OJ Howard TE Alabama

New Orleans (7-9)
Needs: DE, LB, CB
Pick: Pick: Marlon Humphrey CB Alabama

Cleveland - from Philadelphia (7-9)
Needs: RB, DL, LB
Pick: Haason Reddick LB Temple

Arizona (7-8-1)
Needs: QB, WR, DE
Pick: Corey Davis WR Western Michigan

Philadelphia - from Minnesota (8-8)
Needs: DL, RB, CB
Pick: Davis Njoku TE Miami

Indianapolis (8-8)
Needs: OL, LB, DB
Pick: Dalvin Cook RB Florida St.

Baltimore (8-8)
Needs: DE, LB, WR
Pick: John Ross WR Notre Dame

Washington (8-7-1)
Needs: DL, DB, OL
Pick: Derek Barnett DE Tennessee

Tennessee (9-7)
Needs: DB, WR, DL
Pick: Taco Charlton DE Michigan

Tampa Bay (9-7)
Needs: RB, S, OL
Pick: Budda Baker S Washington

Denver (9-7)
Needs: OL, TE, DT
Pick: Christian McCaffrey RB Stanford

Detroit (9-7)
Needs: LB, CB, DT
Pick: Malik McDowell DT Michigan St.

Miami (10-6)
Needs: G, LB, CB
Pick: Forest Lamp G Western Kentucky

New York Giants (11-5)
Needs: Pass rusher, T, RB
Pick: Ryan Ramczyk OT Wisconsin

Oakland (12-4)
Needs: DT, CB, RB
Pick: Jabrill Peppers S/LB Michigan

Houston (9-7)
Needs: QB, DT, DB
Pick: Patrick Mahomes QB Texas Tech

Seattle
Needs: OL, DT, CB

Pick: Garett Bolles T Utah
Kansas City (12-4)
Needs: G, LB, QB
Pick: Mitch Trubisky QB North Carolina

Dallas (13-3)
Needs: DT, CB, LB
Pick: Caleb Brantley DT Florida

Cincinnati (6-9-1) (Trade with Green Bay)
Needs: OL, DE, WR
Pick: Reuben Foster LB Alabama

Pittsburgh (11-5)
Needs: CB, WR, Pass Rusher

Pick: Nathan Peterman QB Pittsburgh
Atlanta (11-5)
Needs: Pass Rusher, G, DT
Pick: TJ Watt LB Wisconsin

New Orleans - from New England (14-2)
Needs: DE, LB, CB
Pick: Jarrod Davis LB Florida

MAT-SU CARBON CREW

Wed. 1:00-2:00 JKB 114
(Student Gov. Office)

Save the planet fanatics? NO!!! We are students that believe this planet is our responsibility and taking care of it is a necessity. Our main goal is to show others better ways to produce food, to use fuels more efficiently, and to use our resources in a manner that is beneficial. Yes, we love our world and want the people on it to thrive. Come join us. We meet every odd Wednesday of the month (1st, 3rd). FSM 114 3:00-4:00PM

Dance Club MSC

Dance Club

Wednesdays 1:15 - 3:30 FSM 207
For more information contact
Richard Hamlin at
rjhamlin@alaska.edu

Monitor

MEETING TIMES
Mondays
&
Thursdays
12:00-12:50
OLB 214
(upstairs in the Library)

Looking For
- Photographers
- Writers
- Reporters
- Marketing Reps
- Cartoonists
- Artists

Now taking submissions: Next deadline for entries: September 2017.

Alaska Native Cultures Club

Mat-Su college

We meet **every Wednesday** 1:00 to 2:00 **JKB 114** . *Visit the* STUDENT CLUB CALENDAR on the Mat-Su website: http://matsu.alaska.eduOr e-mail us at: : MatSuANCC@gmail.com

MAT-SU COLLEGE CHRISTIAN SOCIETY

LIBRARY ROOM (OLB) 214
12-12:45 EVERY TUESDAY

Join us for fellowship and serving our community!

FIND US ON FACEBOOK! MSC CHRISTIAN SOCIETY
FIND US ON INSTAGRAM! MSCCSOCIETY

America's Military has proven time and again that they are willing to answer the call when it comes to protecting America. The transition from soldier to student can be a daunting experience.

Student Veterans of Mat-Su College
Mat-Su College Arctic Dragons

The Student Veterans of Mat-Su College has been created as a place for all individuals, regardless of military affiliation, to get together and support each other while enriching our lives through the pursuit of continuing education.

Membership is open to anyone who would like to become involved. For more information on the Student Veterans of Mat-Su College, find us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/groups/studentveteransofmatsucollege/ or email us at studentveteransofmatsucollege@gmail.com

MEETINGS: WED. JKB 114 (STUDENT GOV. OFFICE) 1:30-2:30

Human Services Club

The information gateway between community help organizations and the Mat-Su College student body.

Thursdays
2:30 - 3:30
FSM 103

Paramedic Association MSC

Paramedic Association

Paramedic students plan and organize various safety and health activities for the campus and community, including CPR classes. For more information contact: Dane Wallace 746-9329

Northern Dragons Prospecting Campus Club

Prospecting
Gold Panning
Dredging

For More Info: Call
Jack at: 907-232-9039
Or Email Jack at:
jackroges29@Yahoo.com

Michelle Asks "Do Guns Belong on Campus?"

In my second edition of "Michelle Asks", I decided to go tackle the simple and not at all controversial issue of guns on campus and gun control. To my surprise, a lot of people were not keen on sharing their opinions on this subject and for the first time in my amateur reporter career, I received more "No comment" comments than I did willing participants who were not afraid to share their opinion to the world. So, without further ado, here are the brave comments of a select few students.

What are your thoughts on gun control?

Student 1: I'm not really a fan of gun control. I don't think that people with criminal records – well, felony criminal records -- or a mental disorder that could compromise their ability to make rational decisions, should necessarily be allowed to buy guns. But it's in our constitution that everyone should be able to buy guns.

Student 2: Ummmm, well there has to be some regulation. But here in Alaska, it's not that big of a deal.

Student 3: I honestly think it's a good thing. But I think that in Alaska, a lot of people need guns to survive. People are subsistence hunters and things like that, so it's necessary to have guns up here.

Student 4: I haven't made up my mind yet. I see both sides of the point.

Student 5: Umm, Gun control should be left to the hand of the user actually. Most of the gun related deaths happen because the user is wrong or the user is just messed up. Because the means don't often justify the ends. You can always find a way to off someone with anything in this world. If you ban guns, they're just going to find other ways of doing it. I don't want people to find incredibly crafty ways to kill someone.

Do guns belong on school campuses?

Student 1: Yes.

Student 2: No. I mean, I don't see a reason why you would have a gun at a school.

Student 3: Overall, I don't see a great purpose for them. Um, I mean as a deterrent, I can sort of understand them. But overall… I don't really see the purpose.

Student 4: That doesn't really bother me. I can't say whether I would support it or not. But, I think that people who would bring guns to campus to do harm would do it regardless of whether it was allowed or not.

Student 5: Definitely not. It's a school zone first and foremost. It's a public area second.

How do you think schools can prevent school shootings?

Student 1: By arming teachers and other students.

Student 2: I don't know.

Student 3: Again, as a deterrent, maybe. But it depends on how extreme people got with it.

Student 4: I don't know if it would prevent or not. Hard to say. Is there any data on that to say?…

Student 5: There's the obvious metal detectors. But that's kind of arbitrary. I think there should be security guards that patrol campus to make sure no violent occurrences happen.

Would more guns on campus make you feel safe?

Student 1: Yeah. Because the majority of people who conceal carry guns are actually trained and are responsible with the guns and know how to use them. And will only take them out when necessary.

Student 2: It depends on who has it and if we know if they have it.

Student 3: Probably not.

Student 4: Maybe, actually. Perhaps…

Student 5: It doesn't make me feel any safer. It's all in the hands of the user. A teacher can be carrying a gun. Of course they have the intention of keeping you safe, but it doesn't make me feel any safer.

I learned two things from these interviews; one, people really do not like talking about gun control. For some reason, this subject is something that many find to be uncomfortable and many prefer to keep their opinions to themselves. The second thing I learned is that even if someone believes that gun control is necessary, most believe gun control alone is not going to be an effective deterrent to stop bad people from doing harm.

Do you have an opinion on this issue? Feel free to send your thoughts to the Mat-Su Monitor online!

"In case of dissension, never dare to judge till you've heard the other side."

— Euripides, The Children of Herakles

I did not agree with the story of "The Red Tablecloth" in last month's Monitor. I felt the author did not fully take both sides of the issue, or the students' opinions about it, into consideration. There are some students on campus who may agree with Dr. Colberg. If one walks into the Student Government office, they will see that it is overflowing with food. As a student, I agree that student funds should be spent on activities that benefit the students, instead of food for everyone to partake in, whether they pay student fees or not. If students are hungry, there is a well-stocked café with a friendly staff that offers a multitude of options for every budget. Many students bring their own food from their homes if they are strapped for cash as well. I feel that using student fees on activities for students is a better use for funds than free food for everyone.

~ Heather Deadmond

YOUR STORY COULD BE HERE!

Write an interesting paper for a class? Experience something on campus that you want to share with others? Have a strong opinion about an issue? Just want to share a poem or short story? Now any student can submit content through the Monitor's webpage! Just Search "Monitor" on the college website to find it.

Submissions policy:

Students are invited to submit articles and letters to the editor to uaa_msc@alaska.edu or at http://matsu.alaska.edu/office/mat-su-monitor/. The Mat-Su Monitor will not accept anonymous submissions, though with prior arrangement articles of a sensitive nature can appear anonymously. All submissions are subject to editing and will only appear with the approval of the editor.

Ask Sophia

Welcome to Ask Sophia, the Mat-Su Monitor's advice column. II you have a question you'd like to see answered, email it to matsu.monitor@alaska.edu or submit it in the Ask Sophia box in the FSM front lobby.

Q. Dear Sophia: #1. The school is constantly cold even with my jacket on. Warm up man. #2 No free warm drinks in winter. #3 Need better access to communicate with clubs. #4 More Social events. #5 We should have a social app for students to connect better. Meeting people is awkward.

A. Dear Friend: #1 Dress in layers - you live in Alaska. #2. Water is free. So is the use of the microwave in café (compliments of student government). Open door - insert full cup of water - heat. For more flavor bring a tea bag. #3 Come to Student Government meetings. Every club is required to have a representative in attendance. Its a nice way to meet people and get involved in campus life. You can also get information from the showcase/ bulletin boards around campus that list events as well as club activities. #4 Go to Student Government. They have many, many resources available to students including funding for concerts, dances, carnivals. You come up with the ideas and they will help you make it happen. Here's your chance to get involved! #5 I suppose that would be a possibility if there was someone to run it. Face to face still works. I mean really at some point you will have to speak and practice makes perfect. Or just go hang out in the commons.

Q. Dear Sophia: We need a game room for students and staff stuck here all day.

A. Dear Gamer: The gaming clubs have used various spaces around campus for their activities. Check with Administrations office or the Library for available rooms. You can also hangout in the cafe if you're not too loud. Oh yeah and it is generally frowned upon for staff members to be gaming during working hours. They don't get paid to play games.

Q. Dear Sophia: Often as I walk through the halls on campus, I overhear cell phone conversations - VERY personal conversations!! Even hearing only half of the conversation can be very disturbing.

I've heard pieces of credit card numbers, social security numbers, sexual adventures, family problems, physical ailments, and more.

Please tell me how we can gently remind students they are divulging very personal information and often it can come back and bite them if they aren't careful. ~ Signed - My ears are burning!

A. Dear Ears: I've heard that hearing a "halfalogue" can be very distracting since our brains have to work harder to fill in the blanks. It makes driving, studying, even walking more difficult... Maybe I overheard it from some ones phone conversation. When it comes to overhearing cell phones conversations we could all apply a polite illusion of privacy.

SUDOKU

Fill the grid with numbers so that each row, column and 3 x 3 section contains all of the digits 1 through 9.

6	2	4					1	
								9
1	7							2
5				4	2			3
				3	6	7		
							2	6
	5	7	9	6				
3	9						4	1

A FIVE YEAR MISSION

N	E	N	T	E	R	P	R	I	S	E	N	O	B	L	I
O	M	C	R	E	S	A	H	P	F	V	K	I	R	K	D
G	I	Y	I	V	S	U	L	U	E	U	R	E	N	S	E
N	T	R	C	V	N	L	A	E	D	L	E	O	U	H	E
I	K	A	O	N	E	N	C	K	E	C	T	D	R	U	P
L	O	N	R	A	U	D	I	I	R	A	R	N	S	T	S
K	M	O	D	H	T	D	G	P	A	N	O	A	E	T	P
T	A	J	E	K	R	U	O	N	T	E	P	R	C	L	R
R	S	O	R	L	A	M	L	I	I	C	S	N	H	E	A
I	C	N	G	I	L	Y	L	A	O	K	N	A	A	B	W
B	O	E	R	N	Z	R	I	T	N	P	A	M	P	A	S
B	T	S	U	G	O	R	G	P	A	I	R	O	E	Y	S
L	T	N	P	O	N	A	D	A	P	N	T	E	L	R	E
E	Y	O	S	N	E	H	S	C	P	C	E	Y	R	C	R
S	I	O	N	S	T	O	R	M	C	H	E	K	O	V	M

Circle the words from the list below. Place the leftover letters in the spaces for a special message!

_ _ _ _

Macbook *continued from page 8*

you to click near the top of the mouse pad, it only allows you to click near the bottom of it. For a long time this was great and still is but Apple has rebuilt the mousepad by taking out the diving board mechanism to replace with something called a Taptic engine. It allows you to feel the feedback when you push down anywhere on the touchpad. Believe it or not the touchpad isn't moving when you push down on it, instead it give you the illusion that its moving by vibrating when it's being pressed. This is one of the many features I enjoy about this new touchpad. The keyboard is a hit or miss and I say this because people either love it or hate it, it seems like there's no in-between. Apple had to redesign the keyboard to allow it to fit in such a small body. Since the keyboard is redesigned to fit in the 12 inch MacBook the key travel is very shallow. To me it feels like I'm pushing down an iPads or iPhones home button which is one of the many things I like about this laptop. Apple also increased the key cap size by 17% so typing speeds should at least remain the same for many but should improve over time once that person gets use to the keyboard. Overall I enjoy the improvements Apple has made to the keyboard and mousepad.

THINGS THAT COULD BE IMPROVED

1. Number of USB Ports - This laptop only has TWO ports throughout the laptop, one being a USB C port and the other an audio jack. Honestly, I am surprised Apple didn't have the courage to take out the audio jack on this laptop like they did on the new iPhone 7 and 7 plus but I digress. The USB C port is responsible for not only transferring data but also charging the laptop and displaying content on a different screen. This means if you want to transfer date while charging this laptop you can't due to the lack of ports. You could buy an adapter to give you more ports but if you're spending over $600.00 you shouldn't have to spend more money just to make your new computer usable with what you already have. I think adding at least another USB C port would easily improve the overall user experience.

2. Upgradeable parts - As some of you may know the 12 inch MacBook has no upgradeable parts whatsoever. This is madness if you ask me because if something were to ever go wrong with the logic board (very low chance but still possible) that means you can't simply take out the hard drive to copy the data over to a different computer because the SSD on this laptop is soldered onto the logic board along with the RAM. So for now make sure you buy the model you know will last you a while. There's no upgrading it later on.

3. Matte finish screen - All MacBooks today come with only one option for the screen, that being a glossy screen. The glossy screen is great for some but not for all. I myself find a matte screen more appealing because not only does it keep the glare down but finger prints and dust don't show up as easily meaning I don't need to clean the screen as often. I know this is just me nit picking but I know there are some people out there like me who enjoy their matte finish screens.

IS THE EARLY 2015 12 INCH MACBOOK STILL WORTH BUYING IN 2017?

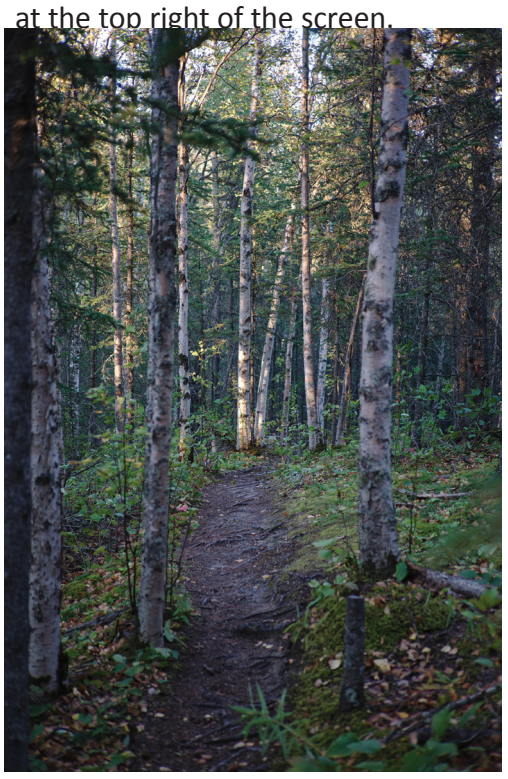
Long story short: yes. I believe the 2015 MacBook is still worth buying in 2017 because not only does it have all-day battery life, it's extremely portable and powerful enough to handle most peoples needs. If you are somebody looking to edit 4K content or to do some hardcore gaming look elsewhere because this MacBook wasn't made for the gamer or professional in mind, it was made for the people who do some basic video editing, type documents, and consume media. So if this sounds like you this MacBook may be a good buy.

Map making *continued from page 6*

RECORDING AND WORKING WITH YOUR TRACK

When you are ready to record a track, do these things. Please accept that these steps are described in a rather abstract manner so that we don't get bogged down in details that may differ between Android and iOS and even between different versions of OsmAnd.

1. Install OsmAnd.
2. Configure OsmAnd. In particular, this means:
    1. Enable the Trip Recording plugin.
    2. In the Trip Recording plugin settings, turn the logging interval to 0 seconds (so that OsmAnd tracks your position as often as it can).
3. Go to the start of your route, remove phone from belt-holster, and from within OsmAnd tap the "GPX" button at the top right of the screen.



4. Walk around some. As necessary, dry off with a super-absorbent shammy cloth.
5. At the end of your walk, tap the "GPX" button again and choose "Save current GPX track."

Now your track is saved as a GPX file. From within OsmAnd you can use the My Places menu to choose whether to show or hide this track while viewing the map. This is helpful for later navigation.

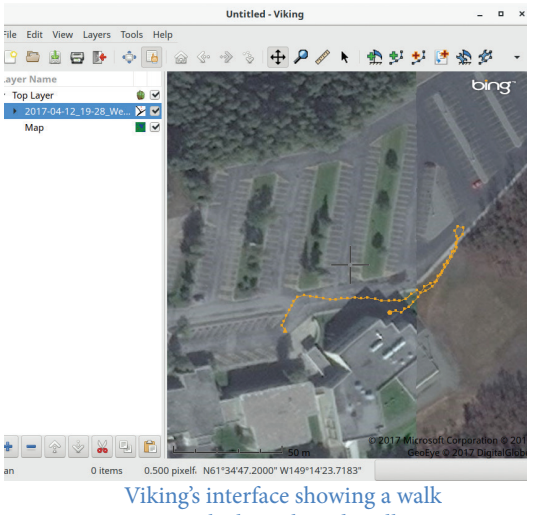
You can also use the My Places menu to share your GPX files; I like to email them to myself so that I can work with them on my desktop.

If these instructions were too vague, see http://osmand.net/features?id=trip-recording-plugin

WORKING WITH YOUR TRACK FILES ON YOUR DESKTOP

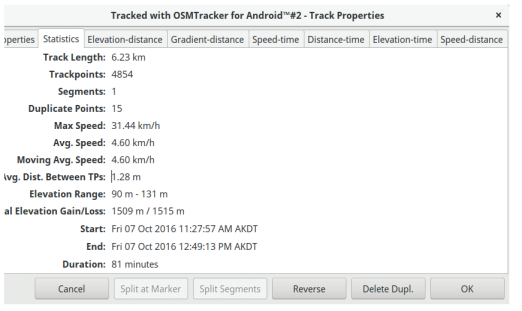
You can use a desktop application called Viking to work with GPX track files. Again, I won't go into much detail, but the following might get you started.

1. Install Viking (https://sourceforge.net/projects/viking/)
2. Open Viking. At first you will see an empty white pane on the left and an empty window in the center of the screen. Don't worry.
3. Add one or more tracks to Viking by using the toolbar to select File → Open. Now you should see your track in the up-to-now blank central window. But what good is seeing the route without any kind of map to accompany it? We'll remedy that next.
4. In the toolbar select Layers → New Map Layer. In the Layer Properties dialog choose "Bing Aerial" for a reasonably detailed aerial photo of the area, or choose "Open Street Map (Mapnik)" for an actual map.



Viking's interface showing a walk I took along the sidewalk

Now you should see your track(s) overlaid on a map or aerial photograph. You can zoom in or out and pan around. In the left-hand pane you can right click on a particular track and choose "Statistics" to see details such as distance, duration, elevation change, average speed, and so on.



Viking can display statistics for a track

Conclusion

OsmAnd's webiste has good documentation on how to get started with the program. In particular, you may want to read the section on the trip recording plugin (http://osmand.net/). Viking's help manual is even more detailed (https://sourceforge.net/p/viking/wikiallura/MasterHelp/).

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